

WASHINGTON STATE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Summary – November 13, 2001

The meeting was **called to order** by Jeff Kelley-Clarke at 9:35, in Ecology's headquarters building in Lacey. Introductions included the welcoming of Holly Chisa as SWAC representative of the Washington Food Industry, and Dennis Durbin as SWAC representative of Eastside Public Works perspectives. The September 18th SWAC Meeting Summary was approved, as written.

9:39 Passing of Former SWAC Member:

Cullen announced the recent passing of Dr. Robert Bocksch, a long-time SWAC member. He also described a number of significant contributions "Doctor Bob" had made to the SWAC. Dennis Hein praised the thornless raspberry bushes Doctor Bob had developed and shared with Dennis.

9:40 Litter Prevention Campaign:

Megan Warfield introduced the Plan binder and explained the campaign slogan, "Litter Hurts". She displayed photographs of litter, and described the safety hazards they pose. Megan said that the Litter Task Force strategy was based upon a legislative directive. Highlights include:

- Campaign radio/television/poster ads that can be customized by local jurisdictions...
- Press events scheduled at five key locations around the State of Washington...
- Implementation Partnerships established with the Washington State Patrol, our Department of Licensing, our Department of Transportation; local government officials, and media markets.

Megan invited broad involvement in the campaign. The campaign hits the airways April 2002; kits are available to local government until the end of January 2002. Call Megan at (360) 407-6963.

10:16 Statewide Waste Management Plan:

Cheryl Strange and Megan Roberts asserted that the draft outline of the Plan distributed last week, went first to the SWAC for their review and comment. Cheryl recapped where we are in the Plan writing process, including an introduction to the concepts of "Beyond Waste" [...and toward a sustainable state.] The group walked through all seventeen components of the Plan Outline.

SWAC questions and comments pertained to:

- *Defining "solid waste"—as distinguished from "hazardous waste"—and addressing each component of the waste stream...*
- *The relationship between the State Plan and Local Plans...*
- *Regulation and enforcement goals...*
- *Why the Plan "quantifies" performance goals for each aspect of the solid waste system...*
- *Promoting "quality of life" through Plan goals, objectives, recommendations, financing.*

SWAC members urged Ecology staff to:

- *Be "aggressive, but practical" in the Plan's design...*
- *Avoid using numerical goals [and substitute measures like] practical and political cost-benefit analyses of desired outcomes...*
- *Identify where we'll get the most bang for the buck...*
- *Recognize/clarify implementation responsibilities and costs—state and local...*
- *Identify the street-level barriers to progress—neither so watered down nor so lofty that the State Plan sits on a shelf.*

Cheryl acknowledged that the planning process is not perfect, but—she maintains—participants are making progress in identifying goals and the interim steps necessary to changing human/social behavior so that we achieve those goals. *SWAC members cautioned Ecology NOT to use the State Plan as a Trojan horse for sustainability. They say the existing waste collection system*

should be maintained—not collapsed...We need to be cognizant of economic practicality, and real needs and costs reflected by local governments and commercial enterprises.

Cheryl wants to revisit the draft during the January 15th SWAC meeting.

11:42 Clpyralid Residue in Compost:

Jeff Kelley-Clarke asked the membership for their opinions about the letter drafted by Tim Croll for submittal to the Washington State Department of Agriculture. The WA DoA is considering an emergency rule that would ban residential use of lawn/garden products containing clopyralid. *Dennis Hein noted that a [previous] “voluntary” ban [of the herbicide] realized no benefit; residue in Spokane area compost is higher than previously [measured]. [On the west side,] LRI is notifying agricultural feedstock providers about the [contamination] issue; we are aware of the problems such a ban would pose to agriculture.*

The membership approved posting of the letter to WA DoA and sending a copy to the federal Environmental Protection Agency, under the SWAC’s heading.

11:51 Electronic Waste Take-Back:

Jeff Kelley-Clarke reported on the breadth and success of a recent take-back event. He explained that some manufacturers who tried such an event had realized a better response when they teamed up with retailers. (Retailers are willing to host a take-back event because of the opportunity to capture potential new customers for their other products.)

Pierce County/City of Tacoma will host a take-back event in February, for which they have been guaranteed 100% recycling, piece-by-piece.

11:55 Minimum Functional Standards Rule Revision Update:

Mike Hibbler outlined a number of impediments that prevent the rule’s adoption before June 2002. He also listed general changes, language standardizations, and exemptions:

The new rule adds a “stability index”, a categorical exemption for collection events, and a catch all section. The definition of Moderate Risk Waste has been streamlined and clarified. Chapter 173-350 WAC rescinds a number of the “Ecology approval” requirements contained in Chapter 173-304 WAC. We removed many redundancies by adding an umbrella section, removed directives about MTCA methodologies, reference back to performance standards, and implement results of the Financial Assurance study conducted for the legislature.

12:08 Revenue Shortfall Forecast:

The Governor contemplates a 15% cut in General Fund appropriations—more than seven million dollars per year. Ecology may impose new fees for some services. We proposed cutting the Ecology Youth Corps, but the agency rejected that idea. For our budget “belt-tightening” Ecology plans to take more than six million dollars per year from the Local Toxics Control Account fund balance. To avoid a raid on a one-time \$23 million account, those dollars would help fund watershed planning for two years, and add \$13,500,000 to the biennium’s Remedial Action Grants fund.

Jeff said he’s been trying to obtain direct access to the LTCA fund for local government programs; he vows to keep the issue before the legislature.

12:41 Lunch Break—The SWAC had addressed all agenda items; interested persons were invited to participate in the M.F.S. Rule Revisions Workshop at 1:30 in the afternoon

.1:30 The participants discussed the appropriateness of considering facility siting from a water resources “active area” perspective, rather than by a “property lines” approach. The workshop **ADJORNED** at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores Mitchell

Attending Members/Alternates:

Holly Chisa	Dennis Durbin	Rob Guttridge	Rod Hansen	Chris Haynes	Dennis Heins
Pete Keller	Jeff Kelley-Clarke	Dean Large	Chris Luboff	Jim Matsuyama	Deborah
Reynolds	Bob Schille	Jim Sells	Sally Toteff	Eddie Westmoreland	

Attending Nonmembers:

Bill Dean	Linda Dennis	Pat Dunn	Norm LeMay	Jerry Smedes	Steve Wamback
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